

What is claimed is:

1. A payment authorization system comprising:

a) a computer network;

b) a merchant computer containing promotional data, said merchant computer having automatic means for communicating order information via said computer network; and,

c) a financial processing computer, remote from said merchant computer having automatic means responsive to said order information for communicating, via said network of computers, an authorization indicia to said merchant computer.

2. The payment authorization system according to claim 1, wherein said merchant computer further includes automatic means for generating a shipping order in response to said authorization indicia.

3. The payment authorization system according to claim 1:

a) a customer computer remote to said merchant computer and said financial processing computer; and,

b) wherein said financial processing computer further includes automatic means for communicating a password to said customer computer; and,

c) wherein said merchant computer further includes:

1) memory means containing secured data, and,

2) automatic means for transmitting the secured data to said customer computer in response to the password from said customer computer.

4. The payment authorization system according to claim 3, wherein said password and said authorization indicia are communicated to said customer computer via said merchant computer.

*as Cont'd*

5. An authorization system comprising:

- a) a merchant computer having automatic means for communicating payment information via a computer network; and,
- d) a remote financial processing computer generating an authorization indicia in response to said payment information.

6. The authorization system according to claim 5, wherein said merchant computer further includes automatic means for generating a shipping order in response to said authorization indicia.

7. The authorization system according to claim 5:

a) wherein said financial processing computer further includes automatic means for communicating a password to a remote computer; and,

b) wherein said merchant computer further includes means for transmitting secured data to a remote computer in response to the password.

8. The authorization system according to claim 7, wherein said password and said authorization indicia are communicated to the remote computer via said merchant computer.

9. A system of computers comprising:

a) a merchant computer containing promotional data, said merchant computer having automatic means for communicating order information to a selected remote computer;

c) a computer, remote from said merchant computer having automatic means responsive to said order information for communicating an authorization indicia to said merchant computer.

10. The system of computers according to claim 9, wherein said merchant computer further includes automatic means for generating a shipping order in response to said authorization indicia.

11. The system of computers according to claim 9:

a) wherein said financial processing computer further includes automatic means for communicating a password to said customer computer; and,

b) wherein said merchant computer further include secured data, and, means for transmitting the secured data to a remote computer in response to the password.